

## 5. ECONOMIC STATUS OF HMS FISHERIES

This section of the annual SAFE report provides recent information on the economic value of HMS fisheries. Baseline data from 1996 commercial fisheries is also included for comparative purposes. For additional information on the economic status of HMS fisheries, please see the 2003 SAFE Report.

**Table 5.1** Average ex-vessel prices per lb. dw for Atlantic HMS by gear and area. 2002 dollars are converted to 1996 dollars using the consumer price index conversion factor of 0.872. Source: Dealer weigh out slips from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and Northeast Fisheries Science Center, and bluefin tuna dealer reports from the Northeast Regional Office. HND=Handline, harpoon, spears, trot lines, and trolls, PLL=Pelagic longline, BLL=Bottom longline, Net=Gillnets and pound nets, TWL=Trawls, SEN=Seines, TRP=Pots and traps, DRG=Dredge, and UNK=Unknown. Gulf of Mexico includes: TX, LA, MS, AL, and the west coast of FL. S. Atlantic includes: east coast of FL, GA, SC, and NC dealers reporting to Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Mid-Atlantic includes: NC dealers reporting to Northeast Fisheries Science Center, VA, MD, DE, NJ, NY, and CT. N. Atlantic includes: RI, MA, NH, and ME. For bluefin tuna, all NC landings are included in the Mid-Atlantic.

Species	Gear	Gulf of Mexico		S. Atlantic		Mid-Atlantic		N. Atlantic	
		1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002
Bigeye tuna	HND	\$0.68	\$1.26	\$1.30	\$2.00	\$5.74	\$3.46	\$3.69	-
	PLL	-	\$4.44	\$1.33	\$2.03	\$3.51	\$3.59	\$3.36	\$3.56
	BLL	-	\$3.70	\$1.30	\$2.39	\$2.61	\$2.48	\$2.15	-
	NET	-	-	\$1.30	-	\$3.87	-	\$3.31	-
	TWL	-	-	-	-	\$4.68	-	\$8.00	\$3.28
	DRG	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.31	-	-
	UNK	-	-	-	-	-	\$4.36	-	-
Bluefin tuna	HND	-	\$2.35	-	\$2.92	\$14.70	\$3.54	\$10.73	\$6.92
	PLL	\$5.83	\$5.58	\$4.62	\$4.32	\$6.12	\$4.99	\$5.56	\$5.20
	NET	-	-	-	-	\$15.71	-	-	-
	SEN	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$11.05	\$5.76
	TWL	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	BLL	-	\$3.92	-	\$4.49	-	\$6.10	-	-
Yellowfin tuna	HND	-	\$2.47	\$1.55	\$1.34	\$2.49	\$1.74	\$2.50	\$2.83
	PLL	-	\$3.21	\$1.63	\$1.65	\$2.51	\$1.87	\$2.14	\$2.41
	BLL	-	\$2.82	\$1.41	\$2.00	\$3.28	\$1.58	\$2.03	-
	NET	-	-	-	\$0.98	\$1.07	\$1.58	\$2.43	\$4.14
	TWL	-	-	-	\$0.38	\$2.40	-	\$2.67	\$1.91

Species	Gear	Gulf of Mexico		S. Atlantic		Mid-Atlantic		N. Atlantic	
		1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002
	TRP	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.72	-	\$3.92
	DRG	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.69	-	-
	UNK	-	-	-	-	-	\$2.40	-	-
Other tunas	HND	\$0.28	\$0.79	\$0.75	\$0.41	\$1.34	\$0.60	\$1.90	\$1.77
	PLL	-	\$0.69	\$0.79	\$0.95	\$1.84	\$0.75	\$0.98	\$1.00
	BLL	-	\$0.65	\$0.87	\$1.46	-	\$0.72	\$1.50	-
	NET	\$0.38	\$0.72	\$0.35	\$0.18	\$0.45	\$0.65	\$0.73	\$0.61
	TWL	-	\$0.35	\$0.31	\$0.23	\$0.45	\$0.37	\$1.08	\$0.60
	SEN	-	\$0.17	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TRP	-	\$0.26	-	-	-	\$0.50	-	\$0.30
	DRG	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.87	-	\$2.62
	UNK	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.90	-	-
Swordfish	HND	-	\$2.78	\$2.48	\$3.43	\$3.61	-	\$5.20	\$4.64
	PLL	-	\$2.56	\$2.88	\$2.48	\$4.31	\$2.77	\$4.01	\$2.88
	BLL	-	\$2.51	\$2.46	\$2.41	\$4.88	\$3.49	\$3.07	-
	NET	-	-	-	\$2.18	\$4.63	\$3.06	\$5.62	\$3.71
	TWL	-	-	-	-	\$4.56	\$2.91	\$3.08	\$2.66
	TRP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$3.26
Large coastal sharks	HND	\$0.23	\$0.38	\$0.72	\$0.88	\$0.74	\$1.82	-	\$0.39
	PLL	-	\$0.31	\$1.54	\$2.29	\$0.58	\$2.42	\$1.03	\$0.25
	BLL	\$0.60	\$0.31	\$0.73	\$0.96	\$0.54	\$0.97	\$0.99	\$0.87
	NET	\$0.38	\$0.34	\$1.30	\$1.39	\$0.45	\$0.89	\$0.83	\$0.78
	TWL	\$0.15	\$0.22	\$0.86	\$0.71	\$0.47	\$0.45	\$0.80	\$0.75
	TRP	-	-	-	\$0.20	-	\$2.18	-	\$0.24
	SEN	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.10	-	-
	UNK	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.44	-	-
Pelagic sharks	HND	-	\$0.81	\$0.82	\$0.59	\$1.47	\$1.23	\$1.60	\$1.49
	PLL	-	\$0.92	\$0.68	\$0.81	\$1.25	\$1.14	\$1.26	\$1.14
	BLL	-	\$1.04	\$0.59	\$0.65	\$1.47	\$0.98	\$1.85	\$0.57

Species	Gear	Gulf of Mexico		S. Atlantic		Mid-Atlantic		N. Atlantic	
		1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002
	NET	-	-	\$0.33	\$0.30	\$0.99	\$0.85	\$1.12	\$0.52
	TWL	-	-	-	\$0.23	\$1.00	\$0.90	\$0.96	\$0.71
	TRP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	\$0.60
	DRG	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.74	-	-
Small coastal sharks	HND	-	\$0.33	\$0.25	\$0.46	-	\$0.39	-	-
	PLL	-	\$0.28	-	\$0.36	\$0.25	\$0.44	-	-
	BLL	-	\$0.46	-	\$0.47	-	-	-	-
	NET	-	\$0.40	\$0.25	\$0.47	-	\$0.37	-	-
	TWL	-	-	-	-	-	\$1.10	-	\$0.51
	TRP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shark fins	HND	-	\$18.56	\$14.00	\$13.54	\$2.74	-	-	-
	PLL	-	-	-	\$5.94	\$7.79	-	\$4.25	-
	BLL	-	\$19.81	\$14.00	\$19.41	\$8.00	-	\$3.00	-
	NET	-	-	-	\$9.08	\$4.77	-	\$1.96	-
	TWL	-	-	\$9.11	\$12.21	\$1.99	-	\$2.32	-

**Table 5.2 Average ex-vessel prices per lb. for Atlantic HMS by area. 2002 dollars are converted to 1996 dollars using the consumer price index conversion factor of 0.872.**

Species	Gulf of Mexico		S. Atlantic		Mid-Atlantic		N. Atlantic	
	1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002	1996	2002
Bigeye tuna	\$0.68	\$3.78	\$1.32	\$2.14	\$3.99	\$3.33	\$3.59	\$3.51
Bluefin tuna	\$5.83	\$4.85	\$4.62	\$3.29	\$9.48	\$4.10	\$10.78	\$6.37
Yellowfin tuna	-	\$2.82	\$1.56	\$1.51	\$2.43	\$1.76	\$2.35	\$2.53
Other tunas	\$0.29	\$0.73	\$0.62	\$0.43	\$1.10	\$0.64	\$1.31	\$1.02
Swordfish	-	\$2.54	\$2.79	\$2.74	\$4.43	\$2.83	\$4.09	\$3.03
Large coastal sharks	\$0.21	\$0.31	\$1.02	\$1.11	\$0.55	\$1.36	\$0.88	\$0.67
Pelagic sharks	-	\$0.97	\$0.62	\$0.58	\$1.21	\$1.02	\$1.31	\$0.87
Small coastal sharks	-	\$0.42	\$0.25	\$0.46	\$0.25	\$0.42	-	\$0.51
Shark fins	-	\$19.74	\$10.74	\$14.91	\$4.60	-	\$2.69	-

**Table 5.3** Estimates of the total ex-vessel value of Atlantic HMS fisheries. Note: Average ex-vessel prices are the average of the values noted in Table 5.5 and may have some weighting errors, except for bluefin tuna which is based on a fleet-wide average. 2002 prices are converted to 1996 dollars using a conversion factor of .872 (NOAA Fisheries, 1997; NOAA Fisheries, 2003a; Cortes, 2003; and bluefin tuna dealer reports from the Northeast Regional Office).

Species	1996			2002		
	Ex-vessel price (\$/lb dw)	Weight (lb dw)	Fishery Value	Ex-vessel price (\$/lb dw)	Weight (lb dw)	Fishery Value
Bigeye tuna	\$2.40	1,212,706	\$2,910,494	\$3.19	1,267,645	\$4,043,788
Bluefin tuna	\$10.58	1,652,989	\$17,488,624	\$4.65	4,133,625	\$19,221,356
Yellowfin tuna	\$2.11	6,679,938	\$14,094,669	\$2.16	12,885,887	\$27,833,516
Other tunas*	\$0.83	368,433	\$305,799	\$0.71	1,298,509	\$921,942
Total tuna	--	--	\$34,799,586	--	--	\$52,020,601
Swordfish**	\$3.77	7,170,619	\$27,033,234	\$2.79	5,985,489	\$16,699,514
Large coastal sharks	\$0.67	5,262,314	\$3,525,750	\$0.86	4,097,363	\$3,523,732
Pelagic sharks	\$1.05	695,531	\$730,308	\$0.86	303,666	\$261,153
Small coastal sharks	\$0.25	460,667	\$115,167	\$0.45	579,441	\$260,748
Shark fins (weight = 5% of all sharks landed)	\$6.01	320,926	\$218,561	\$17.33	249,024	\$4,315,577
Total sharks	--	--	\$4,589,786	--	--	\$8,361,211
Total HMS	--	--	\$66,422,606	--	--	\$77,081,326

\* Other tunas includes skipjack and albacore.

\*\*Swordfish estimates do not include dead discards.

## References for Section 5

Cortes, E. 2003. Updated Catches of Atlantic Sharks. NOAA, NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Panama City, FL. SFD Contribution SFD-2003-0031. 75 p.

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NOAA Fisheries. 2003b. Fisheries of the U.S.: 2002. E.S. Pritchard, Editor. Office of Science and Technology, Fisheries Statistics and Economics Division, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce, Silver Spring, MD. 126 p.

